

and service of ADM Charles R. Larson. Admiral Larson passed away on July 26, 2014, in his Annapolis, MD, home. He leaves behind his beloved wife of 52 years, Sally, three loving daughters, and seven grandchildren.

Throughout his 40 years of service, Admiral Larson exemplified the ideals of a devoted public servant. After he graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1958, he served tours of duty aboard the aircraft carrier USS *Shangri-la* as an aviator and he served as a submariner on board the nuclear submarines USS *Nathan Hale*, USS *Nathaniel Green*, and USS *Bergal*. After serving as Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Interior and naval aide to the President of the United States, he returned to sea duty aboard the USS *Sculpin*. In 1990 Admiral Larson was promoted to the rank of four-star admiral. One year later, he assumed duties as commander in chief, U.S. Pacific Command.

Admiral Larson's career was marked with many notable accomplishments. His naval service as both an aviator and a submariner was unique and admired. In 1979, at the age of 43, he became the second-youngest admiral in the history of the U.S. Navy. Admiral Larson's service is also unique in that he served as both the 51st and 55th superintendent of the U.S. Naval Academy. Larson's second appointment as superintendent, while unusual, was something that the Navy desperately needed. Prior to his second tour of duty as superintendent, the Naval Academy was rocked by a cheating scandal. Admiral Larson was brought in to restore honor and integrity to his alma mater. The task was not an easy one, but he accomplished his mission by pursuing two goals that he outlined when he took the job: "No. 1: to develop character. No. 2: to prove the worth of the service academies to the people of the United States". By the time his second tour as superintendent was over, Admiral Larson had succeeded in restoring the Naval Academy's reputation as one of America's premier educational and military institutions.

In closing, when I think of ADM Larson, I am reminded of a quote from another famous Admiral, ADM Leighton Smith: "The United States Navy is the envy of every other navy in the world. They don't want to be like us—they want to be us."

I believe this quote is true because of the outstanding devotion and competence of those who serve in our Navy. Ships and weapons systems are of little value if the service men and women operating them are not the very best. Admiral Larson understood this, and his service helped the Navy produce other exceptional leaders who have bravely defended and immeasurably enriched our Nation. Few could ask for a more honorable legacy.

I believe that Admiral Larson's legacy is one of duty, honor, and a sincere devotion to serving and improving the Navy he loved. I ask that all Members

of the Senate join me in remembering this extraordinary man and his admirable years of service to our Nation.●

#### MESKWAKI TRIBAL POWWOW CENTENNIAL

● Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, from August 7 through August 10 the Meskwaki will be celebrating the 100th anniversary of their tribal powwow, and I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate them on this occasion. This is a unique event held annually on the only Indian settlement in the State of Iowa. During this celebration the tribe members celebrate and perform dances that have been handed down for generations. It is a time of reaffirmation and hope and a time of friendship.

The Annual Meskwaki Powwow originated from the traditional religious and social beliefs of the Meskwaki Tribe. This annual event is derived from the "Green Corn Dance" which originally took place during the harvesting of the crops. From 1902 to 1912, the tribe held the "Field Days" which would last for the week, with dancing, games, and horse racing. And then in 1912, the tribe made the decision to change the name from "Field Days" to "Powwow". This historic celebration continues to be held at the original location.

I would like to congratulate the Meskwaki on this joyous occasion and hope they will continue to celebrate their powwow for many more years to come.●

#### MAGIC VALLEY VETERANS AND HOSPICE VISIONS

● Mr. CRAPO. Madam President, I wish to pay special tribute to the outstanding service of veterans living in the Magic Valley of Idaho and thank Heidi Walker and all the staff with Hospice Visions for the work they do on behalf of veterans in the Magic Valley.

Hospice Visions has chosen to honor 12 veterans this year in a veterans recognition ceremony hosted by Genesis Healthcare at their Twin Falls Center. Veterans from the River Ridge, Twin Falls and Bennett Hills facilities are among those being recognized. This year's honorees are: Dennis Asmussen, who served in the Navy in Vietnam; Bill Benedict, who served in the Army during World War II; Jon Hindes, who served in the Army in Korea and Vietnam; Levi Hussey, who served in the Marines in World War II; Benjamin Lebaron, who served in the Navy during World War II; Jay Richards, who served in the Army during the Cold War; Byron J. Rowland, who served in the Navy during World War II; Rex Shirts, who served in the Navy during World War II; Vernon Skeen, who served in the Army during World War II; Gary Winder, who served in the Army in Vietnam; Vern Winnill, who served in the Air Force in World War II; and

Marion Wood, who served in the Army in World War II. These veterans are being honored for their service to our Nation. Joining in paying tribute to these extraordinary Americans is a honor.

Occurrences such as this remind us of the many veterans who are such important parts of our communities. Our freedoms are preserved because of their selfless service. They not only gave all for our country, but also they continue to uplift our communities and other generations of returning veterans and their families. Thank you also to the families of those who serve our country. You make sacrifices every day in supporting your loved ones who served in the Armed Forces.

The ceremony also provides an opportunity to recognize the remarkable work of Heidi Walker and the staff and administrators of Hospice Visions for their dedication to assisting our Nation's heroes. I have the honor of presenting Heidi Walker and Hospice Visions with a Spirit of Idaho Award for going above and beyond in serving the Magic Valley's aging, ill, and homebound veterans. Your commitment to the men and women who have served and your work to ensure they receive recognition for their service are commendable. I understand Hospice Visions is a participant in the We Honor Veterans Program, a partnership between the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization and the Department of Veterans Affairs to better serve veteran patients in hospice-like facilities. Heidi and Hospice Visions have given quality care to our Nation's veterans and have been a great support to their families.

Thank you to the veterans of the Magic Valley for your service and to Heidi Walker and all those at Hospice Visions for your exemplary dedication to veterans and their families. We are blessed to have you as part of the community.●

#### TRIBUTE TO RICHARD STRUCKHOFF

● Mr. BLUNT. Madam President, I wish to pay tribute to Richard Struckhoff, the county clerk of Greene County, MO. He has been a quiet, tireless and efficient servant to the citizens of my home county for a record 27 years. He was appointed when Ronald Reagan was President and John Ashcroft was Governor. Then Governor Ashcroft wisely chose Struckhoff for the position he still holds today. Richard was on the staff of another member of this body, U.S. Senator John Danforth, serving in the Senate district office in Springfield, MO.

I met Richard when I was the Greene County clerk and he was a news reporter for KWTO Radio in Springfield. Richard, with his trademark beard, was then as he is today—easy to work with, soft-spoken, insightful and a keen student of local politics. Struckhoff was part of a pack of journalists who visited my office every day looking for